

PRESS RELEASE

Massachusetts Unemployment and Job Estimates for July 2019

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Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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BOSTON — [The state's July total unemployment rate dropped one-tenth of a percentage point at 2.9 percent](http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Current_Month_unemploymnt.asp) (http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Current_Month_unemploymnt.asp), the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development announced Friday.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' preliminary job estimates indicate Massachusetts lost

3,500 jobs in July. (<http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/CES.asp>) Over the month, the private sector lost 4,100 jobs as losses occurred in Leisure and Hospitality; Education and Health Services; Professional, Scientific and Business Services; Construction; and Financial Activities. Manufacturing jobs level remained unchanged over the month while Trade, Transportation and Utilities; Other Services; and Information added jobs. Government added jobs over the month.

From July 2018 to July 2019, BLS estimates Massachusetts added 37,300 jobs.

The July unemployment rate was eight-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate of 3.7 percent reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“Over the last year, the labor force has increased by 18,000, with 34,400 more residents employed and 16,400 fewer residents unemployed. These increases to the labor force, coupled with an unemployment rate that has remained below 4 percent for 39 consecutive months, continue to highlight the overall strength of the Massachusetts economy,” Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta said.

Over the year, the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped four-tenths of a percentage point.

The labor force decreased by 4,400 from 3,838,800 in June, as 2,100 fewer residents were employed and 2,400 fewer residents were unemployed over the month.

The state’s labor force participation rate – the total number of residents 16 or older who worked or were unemployed and actively sought work in the last four weeks – dropped one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 67.6 percent. Compared to July 2018, the labor force participation rate is up one-tenth of a percentage point.

The largest private sector percentage job gains over the year were in Other Services; Education and Health Services; Information; and Leisure and Hospitality.

July 2019 Employment Overview

Trade, Transportation and Utilities added 600 (+0.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Trade, Transportation and Utilities gained 1,500 (+0.3%) jobs.

Other Services added 400 (+0.3%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Other Services are up 3,200 (+2.3%) jobs.

Information added 200 (+0.2%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Information gained 1,500 (+1.6%) jobs.

Manufacturing jobs level remained unchanged over the month. Over the year, Manufacturing lost 1,700 (-0.7%) jobs.

Leisure and Hospitality lost 2,000 (-0.5%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality added 5,400 (+1.5%) jobs.

Education and Health Services lost 1,500 (-0.2%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Education and Health Services gained 18,100 (+2.3%) jobs.

Professional, Scientific and Business Services lost 1,100 (-0.2%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Professional, Scientific and Business Services gained 3,300 (+0.6%) jobs.

Construction lost 500 (-0.3%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Construction has lost 2,500 (-1.6%) jobs.

Financial Activities lost 300 (-0.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Financial Activities added 1,700 (+0.8%) jobs.

Government added 600 (+0.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Government gained 6,700 (+1.5%) jobs.

Labor Force Overview

The July estimates show 3,723,200 Massachusetts residents were employed and 111,200 were unemployed, for a total labor force of 3,834,400. The unemployment rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point at 2.9 percent. The July labor force decreased by 4,400 as 2,100 fewer residents were employed and 2,400 fewer residents were unemployed over

the month. The labor force participation rate, the share of working age population employed and unemployed, dropped one-tenth of a percentage point at 67.6 percent. The labor force was up 18,000 from the 3,816,400 July 2018 estimate, with 34,400 more residents employed and 16,400 fewer residents unemployed.

The unemployment rate is based on a monthly sample of households. The job estimates are derived from a monthly sample survey of employers. As a result, the two statistics may exhibit different monthly trends.

NOTES:

The labor force is the sum of the numbers of employed residents and those unemployed, that is residents not working but actively seeking work in the last four weeks. Estimates may not add up to the total labor force due to rounding.

Local area unemployment statistics for July 2019 will be released on Tuesday, August 20, 2019. The preliminary August 2019 and revised July 2019 unemployment rate, labor force and job estimates for Massachusetts will be released on Friday, September 20, 2019. See the [2019 Media Advisory annual schedule](http://Imi2.detma.org/Imi/Newsrelease/media2019.pdf) (<http://Imi2.detma.org/Imi/Newsrelease/media2019.pdf>) for a complete list of release dates.

Detailed labor market information is available at www.mass.gov/Imi (/Imi).

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Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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EOLWD manages the Commonwealth's workforce development and labor departments to ensure that workers, employers, and the unemployed have the tools and training needed to succeed in the Massachusetts economy.

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